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JAMES E. JOHNSON Corporation Counsel

THE CITY OF NEW YORK LAW DEPARTMENT

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March 13, 2020

BY ECF

Honorable Katharine H. Parker United States Magistrate Judge Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

MEMO ENDORSED

Re: Lurch, Jr. v. City of New York, et al., 19 CV 11253 (AJN) (KHP)

Your Honor:

I am a Senior Counsel in the office of James E. Johnson, Corporation Counsel of the City of New York, and attorney for defendant City of New York in the above-referenced matter. Defendant City of New York writes respectfully to request an adjournment of the initial case management conference, which is currently scheduled for March 23, 2020, at 10:30 a.m., until a future date convenient to the Court after April 21, 2020. Defendant also requests a corresponding enlargement of time to file the Proposed Case Management Plan for Pro Se Cases. This is the first request for an adjournment in this matter. Plaintiff will not be prejudiced by the requested adjournment, nor will it affect other deadlines in this case. Plaintiff has consented to this request, which is the first of such a request.

By way of background, plaintiff Robert Lurch, proceeding *pro se*, filed the Complaint on December 5, 2019 alleging, *inter alia*, that he was subjected to excessive force by four employees of the New York City Police Department. (Civil Docket Sheet Entry No. 2.) On February 21, 2020, defendant City returned an executed waiver of service. (Civil Docket Sheet Entry No. 14.) Defendant City is required to file an answer or otherwise responsive pleading by April 21, 2020. (<u>Id.</u>) This adjournment is requested because defendant City will not have

¹ This case has been assigned to Assistant Corporation Counsel Amanda Rolon, who is presently awaiting admission to the Southern District of New York. Ms. Rolon is handling this matter under supervision and may be reached at (212) 356-2356 or arolon@law.nyc.gov.

answered plaintiff's Complaint by March 23, 2020, and thus, defendant will be in a better position to meaningfully participate in an initial case management conference after the City's answer or responsive pleading is filed with this Court.

In light of the foregoing, the undersigned respectfully requests an adjournment of the initial case management conference until after April 21, 2020.

The undersigned thanks the Court for its consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>Maria Fernanda DeCastro /s/</u>

<u>Senior Counsel</u>

Special Federal Litigation Division

BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Robert Derek Lurch, Jr. Pro Se Plaintiff PO Box 540807 Bronx, NY 10454

The Initial Case Management Conference in this matter that is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. is hereby converted to a telephonic conference and rescheduled Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. Counsel for the Defendant is directed to call Judge Parker's Chambers at the scheduled time with the Pro se Plaintiff on the line. Please dial 212-805-0234. The Clerk of Court is requested to mail a copy if this endorsement to the Plaintiff.

APPLICATION GRANTED

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Hon. Katharine H. Parker, U.S.M.J.

03/13/2020